

Message Text

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15

ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5107

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, CH

SUBJECT: WINTER GRAIN CONDITIONS

REF: STATE 24458

1. SOIL MOISTURE IN MOST OF WHEAT GROWING REGION OF NORTH AND NORTHEAST CHINA APPARENTLY BELOW NORMAL.

2. NO BENEFICIAL PRECIPITATION IN PEKING AREA SINCE AUGUST AND TEMPERATURES DURING LATE DECEMBER AND EARLY JANUARY ABOVE SEASONAL AVERAGE. TOTAL PRECIPITATION FOR 1975 WAS 300 C.M., LESS THAN ONE-HALF OF NORMAL LEVEL. SOME WINTER WHEAT IN AREA SHOWING DEFINITE EFFECTS OF INADEQUATE MOSITURE.

3. CHIEF OF PROTOCOL CHU CHUAN-HSIEN AT MDU LUCNEHEON JANUARY 26 MADE UNSOLICITED REMARK THAT THERE WAS MUCH CONCERN OVER EFFECTS DRY WEATHER MAY HAVE UPON GRAIN PRODUCTION.

4. LATE WINTER OR EARLY SPRING RAINS COULD LARGELY ALLEVIATE EXISTING DROUGHT CONDITIONS AND PROVIDE ADEQUATE SUBSOIL MOISTURE FOR SPRING SOWING OF WHEAT
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AND FEEDGRAINS.

5. WE HAVE NO INDICATION OF INADEQUATE MOSITURE IN
MAJOR RICE-GROWING AREAS.

6. TWO COMMUNES VISITED DURING FALL OF 1975 REPORTED
WATER TABLE IN IRRIGATION WELLS HAD DROPPED SHARPLY
DURING RECENT YEARS, DUE TO DRY WEATHER.

7. WIDESPREAD DEVELOPMENT OF IRRIGATION IN RECENT
YEARS FROM BOTH RIVERS AND WELLS HAS EVIDENTLY REDUCED
SIGNIFICANTLY PRC'S DEPENDENCE UPON TIMELY RAINFALL.
THAYER

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Message Attributes

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